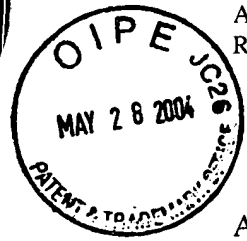


Appl. No. 09/699,136
Amdt. Dated December 12, 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed November 26, 2003



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/699,136
Applicant : Daniel SANTI *et al.*
Filed : October 27, 2000
Title : HETEROLOGOUS PRODUCTION OF POLYKETIDES
TC/A.U. : 1652
Examiner : Kerr, Kathleen M.

Docket No. : 300622004900 (010025.01)

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action mailed November 26, 2003, time for response to which was set to expire February 26, 2003, Examiner Kathleen M. Kerr, Ph.D., rejected Claims 1, 17, 24, and 26-39, all of the pending claims of the above-captioned application. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendments and remarks are offered in response. Favorable reconsideration of the application and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks below.

A three (3) month extension of time for reply is hereby requested.